

CASTLE GARDEN BE ENLARGED

Plans to Make It
the Largest Aquarium.

MILLION FOR CHANGES.

Castle Garden, Erected as Castle Clinton in 1807, Became Theater in 1830 and Heard Jenny Lind in 1850. Lafayette, Jackson and Tyler Visited There.

New York may have a new aquarium to be the largest and best equipped institution of the kind in the world, and the city will be asked for \$1,000,000 for the erection of a new building.

It is understood that the city will be asked for a total of about \$1,000,000, to be appropriated in installments as needed. In addition to the cramped quarters for visitors, the tank space has been found to be inadequate. To meet the proposed enlarged institution with the best ideas which have been worked out in similar institutions in the large cities in the world the director, Dr. Charles H. Townsend, will go abroad to inspect the aquariums in Europe.

Due to the enormous amount of space lost in the present old building by account of the thick walls and bomb proof compartments the amount of space actually available for the work of the aquarium as it now stands is a very small percentage of the amount of area covered by the building. The much needed additional space will be acquired by the removal of the great thick walls and bomb proof compartments and by adding two stories to the height of the present structure. This will provide 1,000 running feet of glass, which is practically three times the present capacity, giving approximately 282 tanks.

Castle Garden Made History.
Castle Garden, the building which the aquarium now occupies and will continue to occupy, is one of the most picturesque structures in New York. The general government erected it in 1807, when the site was about 300 yards from the mainland, a part of Battery park having since been made by filling up the space between the shore at that time and the island. The structure was first known as Castle Clinton and was a fortress, which accounts for its walls of fourteen feet in thickness, supposed at the time to be bomb proof.

Fifteen years after its completion its necessity as a means of defense passed away, and the federal authorities ceded it to the city in 1822. Two years later it was leased to private individuals as a place of amusement, and its floor was laid out elaborately as an indoor garden. A stage was erected at the north side, concerts were given, and refreshments were sold to the audience, as in case of the less formal musical hall entertainments of the present time. The capacity at that time was 6,000 people accommodated in comfort, but as many as 10,000 have been known to crowd into it at a pinch.

Opera and Jenny Lind.
In the thirties it became a playhouse, and in 1847 the Havana Opera company began an engagement there, singing such operas as "Ernani," "Norma" and "La Sonnambula." Signor Arditi, Patti's conductor, was the musical director and Signorina Detusco the prima donna.

A later event, however, made Castle Garden famous as a place of amusement. This was the appearance there of Jenny Lind in a concert on Sept. 11, 1850, under the management of P. T. Barnum. To this and to the fact that the city has welcomed there such distinguished persons as the Marquis de Lafayette when he returned to America in 1824, General Andrew Jackson in 1832 and President John Tyler in 1848 the building owes its claim to historical importance and interest.

Castle Garden's career as a theater ended in May, 1853, when the building was turned into a depot for the reception of immigrants. In 1879 its interior was destroyed by fire, but the thick walls remained intact, and the interior was soon reconstructed. It was turned over to the park department and converted into an aquarium about twenty years ago.

CLERGYMAN BUYS MONKEYS.

Seeks Serum to Prevent or Cure Infantile Paralysis.

The Rev. Maitland Alexander, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Pittsburgh, who is worth \$20,000,000, and his wife as much more, is experimenting on monkeys in the hope of finding a serum or cure for infantile paralysis, the disease from which less than 15 per cent of its victims recover. Dr. Alexander has for many years been connected with the Allegheny General hospital, and it is there that the experiments are now being carried on.

He now has sixty monkeys in a cage in the pathological department, and they are being utilized daily for an exchange of blood with sufferers from the dread disease.

Cotton Company For China.

A company, \$10,000,000 gold capital, is forming to grow cotton in Chosen, Korea. Experiments in growing have been successful.

SHE LOVED SNUFF.

Remarkable Will and Funeral of a Queer Englishwoman.

The will of Mrs. Margaret Thompson, which is preserved as a curiosity at Somerset House, England, is a tribute to the delights and consolations of snuff. The testatrix directed that in her coffin should be buried with her all her handkerchiefs and sufficient of the best Scotch snuff to cover her body. This she preferred to flowers, as "nothing could be more fragrant and so refreshing to me as that precious powder." Further, the six greatest snuff takers in the parish of St. James, Westminster, were to be her bearers. Six old maids, each bearing in her hand a box filled with the best Scotch snuff to take for their refreshment as they walked, were to bear the pall. Before the corpse the minister was to walk, carrying and partaking of a pound of snuff. At every twenty yards a handful of snuff was to be delivered to the bystanders, and at the door of the testatrix's house were to be placed two bushels of the same quality of snuff for gratuitous distribution. In order to insure the carrying out of her wishes the testatrix made the legacies given by the will dependent upon an exact and literal fulfillment of the conditions above named. In closing she bade all concerned to regard snuff as the grand cordial of nature.

Toned It Down.

"King Edward," said an English visitor in New York, "hated snobbishness. To show how ridiculous snobbishness was he used often to tell about an alphabet book of his childhood."

"This book had alliterative sentences arranged under each letter, thus:

"'Callous Caroline caned a cur cruelly.'"

"'Henry hated the heat of heavy hats.'"

"'Under the letter V came the facetious sentence:

"'William Vilkins viped his veskit.'"

"'But the young prince's snobbish

tutors thought this sentence too vulgar and low for their charge and accordingly they substituted for it the more refined and genteel line:

"'Vincent Vining viewed a vacant villa.'"

Genius and Mediocrity.

Cornelius did not speak correctly the language of which he was such a master. Descartes was silent in mixed society. Themistocles, when asked to play on a lute, said, "I cannot fiddle, but I can make a little village into a great city." Addison was unable to converse in company. Virgil was heavy colloquially. La Fontaine was coarse and stupid when surrounded by men. The Countess of Pembroke had been often heard to say of Chaucer that his silence was more agreeable to her

than his conversation. Socrates, celebrated for his written orations, was so timid that he never ventured to speak in public. Dryden said that he was unfit for company. Hence it has been remarked, "Mediocrity can talk; it is for genius to observe."

The Art of Carpentry.

How many common figurative expressions in our language are borrowed from the art of carpentry may be seen from the following sentence: "The lawyer who filed the bill, shaved the note, cut an acquaintance, split a hair, made an entry, got up a case, framed an indictment, impaneled a jury, put them into a box, nailed a witness, hammered a judge and bored a whole court, all in one day, has since laid down law and turned carpenter."

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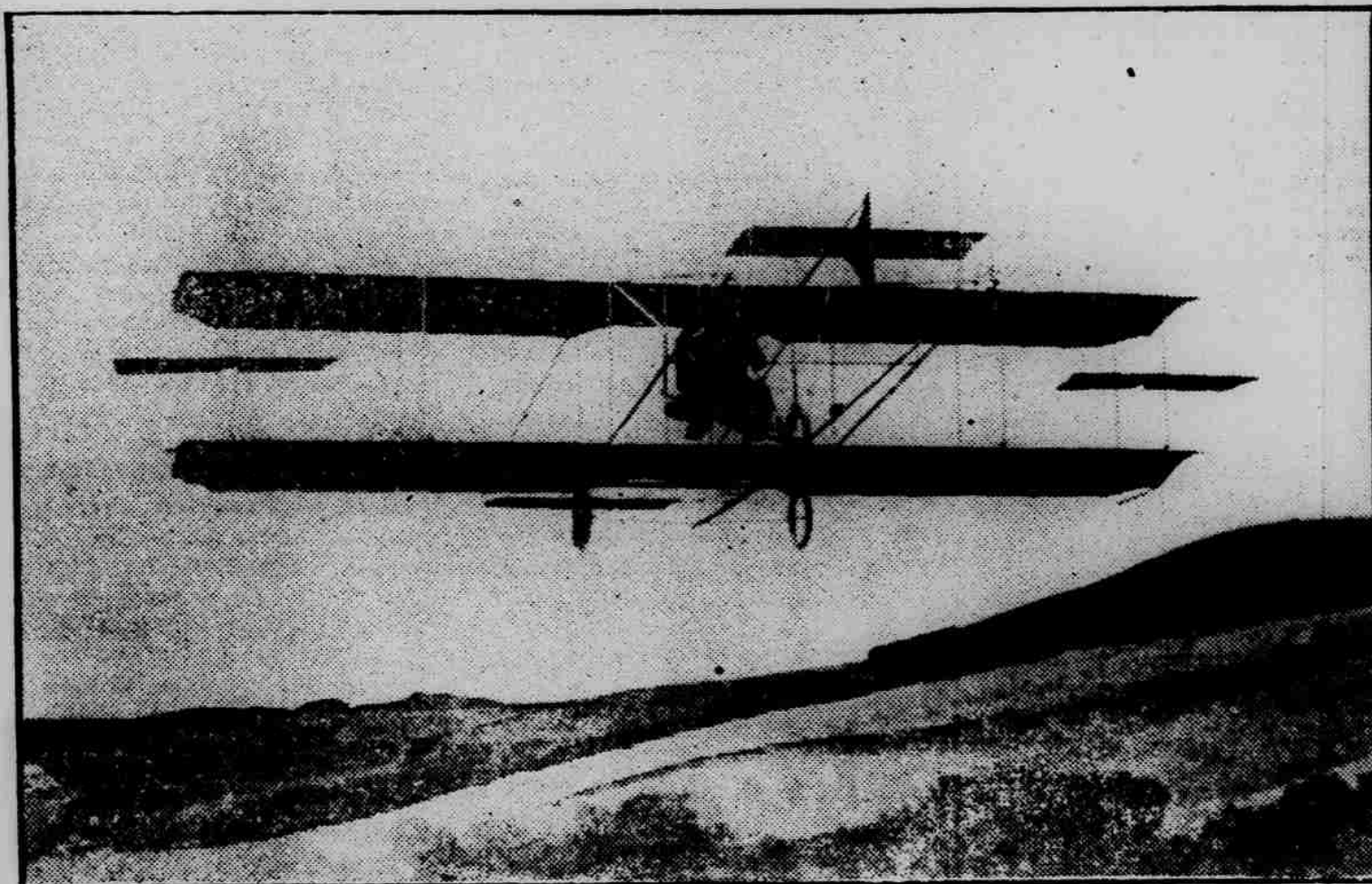
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